

## **REMARKS**

This amendment is submitted as a full and complete response to the Decision on Appeal dated November 23, 2011. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claims 1-15, 17, 18, and 23 over the combination of *Ramakrishnan*, *Jones*, and *Browning*. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 21 over the combination of *Ramakrishnan*, *Jones*, *Browning*, and *Cheng*. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences reversed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, and 23 over the combination of *Zolnowsky*, *Browning*, and *Jones*. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences rejected the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 22 over the combination of *Ramakrishnan*, *Jones*, *Browning*, and *Cheng*.

Claims 1-15, 17, 18, and 21-23 are pending in the application. By way of this reply, Applicants are amending claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of previously submitted dependent claims 21 and 22. Claim 9 is also amended to recite the limitations of claims 21 and 22. Claims 21 and 22 are cancelled. No new matter has been added by the amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are requested.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed. Applicants reserve the right to subsequently take up prosecution of the claims as originally filed in this application in a continuation, a continuation-in-part and/or a divisional application. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Stephanie Winner/

Stephanie Winner

Registration No. 52,371

PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.

3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500

Houston, TX 77056

Telephone: (650) 330-2310

Facsimile: (650) 330-2314

Agent for Applicant